

BRINGING CHURCHES TOGETHER TO IMPACT
LOSTNESS IN OUR COMMUNITIES & TO THE
ENDS OF THE EARTH

Forerunner

“Church Awaken”

Joel 2:12-14

Winter Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 16 - 6:00pm
Cherryfield Baptist Church
2070 Whitmire Road, Brevard

Make plans now to attend the Board Meeting, as 32 churches join together for an encouraging and informative evening of resourcing and fellowship.

Special Guest - Dr. Paul Langston, Consultant in Missions Mobilization Ministry, NC Baptists on Mission

* Dinner Included *

All Pastors, Leaders, and Church Representatives are encouraged to attend. Visitors are always welcome.



“Terry, Greta, and TBA church families, just a note of thanks for the honor to preach God’s Word at your Spiritual Awakening Emphasis during your Annual Meeting. I sensed God’s nearness and work in our midst. We give Him praise! Thanks again for your gracious honorarium and for taking care of my travel expenses. It was a joy being with you. Terry & Greta, as always, it was a blessing seeing you both. I pray God’s richest blessings and fruit that remains as you lead the TBA family to seek the Lord while He may be found! To God be the glory!”

Dr. J. Chris Schofield



Transylvania Baptist Association

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828-877-3203 - transylvaniabaptist@gmail.com - transylvaniaams@gmail.com - www.tbanc.org

Rev. Terry Stockman - Association Missions Strategist

James Felty - Moderator

Rev. Michael Childers - Vice Moderator

Angie McGee - Treasurer

Nancy Kilpatrick - Clerk

January 2024
Volume 34 Issue 1

TERRY'S THOUGHTS



Welcome to 2024. It seems incredible that we have arrived at a year where I believed we would have been much further advanced technologically than we truly are. Regardless of where we are with our technological advancements, the mission of reaching the world has never been more urgent. Therefore, I am asking you to join me this year to make it the most effective year we, as an association, have ever had in the areas of Evangelism and Discipleship.

Let us use every tool at our disposal to advance the gospel and to make disciples of those we are fortunate to reach. Tools such as the Evangelism Kits, the various evangelism/discipleship resources available through the association as well as our convention, and each other as we partner together to reach our County, State, nation, and beyond. To kick this effort off the association is hosting an Evangelism training session using the Evangelism Kit made available to you at our recent Annual Meeting. Of course, if you were not able to attend our 2023 Annual Meeting, extra kits will be available at no cost to you. We will host this training at Calvary Baptist Church of Brevard on Saturday morning January 20th beginning at 9:00 AM that morning. We will conclude by 11:30 that same morning. Obviously, there will be more training opportunities throughout the year so be looking for those chances to strengthen your efforts in reaching those without a personal relationship with Christ.

Beginning this month, we will be operating with a new structure designed to better serve the churches of the TBA. As explained last year our structure will look like and consist of the following Teams:

Leadership Team (LT) - Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Treasurer, Clerk, AMS, Administrative Assistant, and Team Leaders.

Administrative Support Team (AST) – Team Leader along with at-large team members elected from member churches within the association. Additionally, the officers and staff will serve in a consultation role. The primary responsibility of this team is to handle the administration of the association, promote faithful stewardship among the member churches, and training in the areas of church administration and stewardship.

Mission Development Team (MDT) – Team Leader along with at-large team members elected from member churches within the association. The primary function of this team is to promote, educate, and manage or assist the mission efforts of the association along with the partnerships formed throughout the year. Additionally, this team will assist churches in developing an ACTS 1:8 DNA within the association.

Leadership Development Team (LDT) – Team Leader along with at-large team members elected from member churches within the association. The primary function of this team is to provide vital training in a variety of ministry areas such as Sunday School, VBS, Deacon, teacher, and small group training, and a variety of other needed leadership training within the TBA.

Evangelism/Discipleship Team (EDT) – Team Leader along with at-large team members elected from member churches within the association. The primary function of this team is to promote, train, facilitate appropriate events and supply Evangelism, along with Discipleship, resources to be used among the member churches of the TBA.

There will be other positions such as Brotherhood Director, WMU Director (both relating to the MDT), Building and Grounds team, and a Nominating Team. This year we will devote ourselves to the task of fully staffing these teams and beginning the work of each. I am asking that you not only pray for this new structure and those committing to serve in each area, but consider joining us as we create something very special here in the TBA. Additionally, PLEASE KNOW THAT THE DEVELOPMENT AND STAFFING OF THIS STRUCTURE will NOT distract from the service you are currently receiving from us (we are active and open for business).

Finally, please allow me to encourage you and your churches to consider faithfully supporting the work of the association with your time, talents, and stewardship. Meaning, the association works best when its members are involved both physically and financially. We are TOTALLY supported through your participation in and your giving to the association, therefore, the support we are able to provide will depend on your faithfulness to participate and to give. I am asking you to pray about what the Lord would have your church give as a way of tithing for the work of the association. The leadership and I all consider it an honor to serve you and we look forward to many years of faithful service together for the cause of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Also remember I love you and consider it one my highest privileges to walk along side of you as we share the truth of His Gospel!

In His Grip,
Terry



Training & Resources to Cultivate a Culture of Evangelism

**Saturday, January 20
9:00am
Calvary Baptist Church**

Call or Email to Register

**Association Financial Summary
November 2023**

	Current	Year-to-Date
Blantyre	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,375.00
Blue Ridge	\$ 75.00	\$ 750.00
Boylston	\$ 360.40	\$ 3,883.05
Biltmore Brevard	\$ 0	\$ 3,750.00
Brevard First	\$ 1,561.08	\$ 14,271.70
Calvary	\$ 651.74	\$ 4,965.20
Carr's Hill	\$ 250.00	\$ 2,750.00
Carson's Creek	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,600.00
Cathey's Creek	\$ 402.00	\$ 2,888.00
Cedar Mountain	\$ 366.00	\$ 4,522.00
Cherryfield	\$ 416.82	\$ 3,815.38
Church at Sapphire	\$ 0	\$ 1,860.00
Cove Church	\$ 0	\$ 150.00
Dunn's Rock	\$ 0	\$ 7,990.40
East Fork	\$ 0	\$ 1,200.00
Enon	\$ 0	\$ 1,200.00
Faith Missionary	\$ 0	\$ 1,358.00
Grace	\$ 231.33	\$ 3,147.74
Hope Church Brevard (See Off)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Lake Toxaway	\$ 0	\$ 653.04
La Primera Mission	\$ 0	\$ 0
Little River	\$ 0	\$ 1,606.50
Middle Fork	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Morningside	\$ 221.75	\$ 1,960.65
Mt. Moriah-Calvert	\$ 0	\$ 0
New Hope	\$ 0	\$ 200.00
North Toxaway	\$ 50.00	\$ 550.00
Oak Grove	\$ 0	\$ 600.00
Pisgah Forest	\$ 380.83	\$ 3,831.67
Rocky Hill	\$ 400.00	\$ 4,400.00
Temple	\$ 131.25	\$ 1,443.75
Turkey Creek	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Zion	\$ 0	\$ 2,201.12
Checking Interest	\$ 3.18	\$ 77.62
Total Receipts	\$ 6,176.38	\$83,337.82
Total Expenses	\$11,332.95	\$123,772.86

2023 Budget \$141,973.00
 Needed Monthly to Meet Budget \$11,831.00

Church News

Brevard First - is seeking a director for the Weekday Early Education Program. For more information, please contact Peggy Alverson at 828-877-2007 or peggyalverson@yahoo.com.

Cedar Mountain - is hosting GriefShare on Tuesdays at 6pm.

Cove Church - Cove Shelter is now open on Code Purple nights, providing overnight assistance to homeless individuals, including sleeping accommodations, hot meals, access to shower and laundry facilities, and the Gospel.

Enon - is seeking a pianist/music leader fluent with all worship styles. For more information please contact the church at 828-877-4418 or praygoshare@gmail.com.

Little River - is seeking a part-time worship leader. For more info, please visit <https://lrbchurch.org/employment>.

Pisgah Forest - is seeking a part-time music director/leader, For more information, please contact Gene Parker at 828-508-9142.

Rocky Hill - is seeking a worship leader. For more information and to apply, please contact Pastor Leland Holland at 828-553-3308 or lelandholland@yahoo.com.

Etowah Baptist - is seeking a Student Pastor & Children's Pastor. For more information, please contact the church at 828-891-7153 or office@ebcetowah.org.

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Years Day Baptist Center Closed <i>Brooke Snipes</i> <i>Birthday (Cove)</i>	2 Weekly Prayer N. Toxaway 7am <i>James Burress</i> <i>Birthday</i> <i>(Boylston)</i>	3	4 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am	5	6
	7	8	9 Pastors Fellowship TBA 10am Weekly Prayer N. Toxaway 7am <i>White Anniv.</i> <i>(Calvary)</i>	10 <i>Jeff Maynard</i> <i>Birthday</i> <i>(Brevard FBC)</i>	11 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am TBA Leadership Meeting TBA 10am	12
14 <i>Ron Nelson</i> <i>Birthday</i> <i>(Blantyre)</i>	15 Martin Luther King Day	16 Weekly Prayer N. Toxaway 7am TBA Board Meeting Cherryfield 6pm	17 <i>Chuck Campbell</i> <i>Birthday</i> <i>(Former DOM)</i>	18 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am <i>Owen Anniv.</i> <i>(Turkey Creek)</i>	19	20 NAMB Evangelism Kit Training Calvary 9am
21 Sanctity of Life Sunday <i>Randy Shuler</i> <i>Birthday</i> <i>(Cherryfield)</i> <i>McCall Anniv.</i> <i>(Mt. Moriah)</i>	22 <i>Mary McKinney</i> <i>Birthday</i> <i>(Sapphire)</i> <i>Lee Patrick</i> <i>Birthday</i> <i>(New Hope)</i>	23 Weekly Prayer N. Toxaway 7am	24	25 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am	26	27
28	29	30 Weekly Prayer N. Toxaway 7am	31			

In the event of inclement winter weather, if Transylvania County Schools are closed, the Baptist Center may be closed or have reduced hours. Emails will be checked regularly as long as services are operative. Please call the Baptist Center at 828-877-3203 before coming.



ServeNC is an opportunity for every N.C. Baptist church to love its community in Jesus' name. *Every church. Every community.*



Whether it's painting a school, cleaning up a yard, or serving meals to those in need, your church knows your community's context. You can choose the best project to make a difference through ServeNC.

Sign up and commit your church to one week of being on mission together and display the gospel to those in need. Let's make a huge impact serving from the mountains to the coast **Aug. 3-10, 2024**. Visit ServeNC.com to sign up and receive resources, tools, and more.

Register your church today at ServeNC.com

Successful Backpack Distribution in Wise, VA

2023 has been a wonderful year for the Baptists on Mission Appalachian Christmas Outreach. More than any year, 21,142 filled Christmas backpacks were collected across the state by NC Baptists. These backpacks have been distributed at 96 different sites across VA, WV, KY, TN, NC, PA, MD, and NY. At 43 of those sites, teams of volunteers assisted local churches with Christmas parties where physical needs were met, the backpacks were distributed and the gospel was shared. Numerous reports of salvations and recommitments to Christ have been received. At least 780 volunteers have assisted with this ministry. God has been honored and the Kingdom has grown- praise God!

Here in **Transylvania Baptist Association**, 14 churches collected 364 Christmas backpacks. Most of these went with us to Wise, VA for our annual Christmas Outreach at Wise County Christian School. At least 300 people attended this event where coats, blankets, socks, salvation dolls, food boxes, and backpacks were distributed to families. Each family received a meal while they watched the gospel presentation through puppet show. Each family was led by a guide and encouraged to speak with counselors if needed. The children were allowed to play supervised games. Each person was cared for, treated respectfully, prayed for, and felt the hands and feet of Jesus in the care given to them. Pray with us that all the gospel seeds that were planted in Wise Dec. 16 will grow.

We appreciate all the help of 117 volunteers from churches at the Wise event. Everyone doing their part made the day smooth and productive. The churches who participated were **FBC Brevard, Grace, Carson's Creek, Enon, Calvary, Dunn's Rock** along with Encouraging Word in Waynesville, Highland in Hickory, Providence in Hickory, Etowah, Bethel in Lake Wylie, SC and FBC Hendersonville.

Thank you for all your prayers and support for this ministry. Please pray how God may be leading your church to be involved in partnership missions in 2024. We love being your missionaries.

Kathie and Dewey Aiken



Before You Run Out of Time - Ending Your Bible Study on a Strong Note

Charles Dickens's last novel was *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. It's fitting that "mystery" is in the title because it is a mystery how it ends. This book was published in installments. Twelve installments were planned, but Dickens up and died halfway through the project. Edwin Drood may have been murdered ... and John Jasper may have been the culprit, but no one knows. We're left hanging in suspense.

Ever leave your Bible study group hanging in suspense?

You're leading the group, and for 45 (or 90) minutes, you've engaged in discussion around the Scripture. You've explained the finer points of the passage, they discussed its meaning, and ... whoa, it's time to wrap up. A quick prayer and you're out the door. So what's missing?

We leave our groups hanging in suspense if we never lead them to consider how the passage applies to their lives. The goal of a group Bible study is not merely to learn what the Bible says. The goal is to apply it. Learning Bible facts alone may help us on *Jeopardy*, but seeing how to live out the Bible will help us in jeopardy. Let me offer four ways to help your group make application:

1. **Reserve time for application.** Save the last 5-10 minutes to discuss what group members can do with the truth they've studied. Guard that time, because without application, the group study is incomplete.
2. **Scrap your plan as needed.** I know, you've worked hard to create an earth-moving Bible study, but if you've only got 10 minutes left to cover 30 minutes of material, chunk it. *But I've still got four more verses to cover.* Don't cover them. Lead them to focus on applying the verses they did cover. Even if you only cover one verse, make sure they leave with ideas on how to live out that one verse!
3. **Guide them, don't tell them.** Your job is not to tell them how to apply the passage, but you can lead them to discover ways to apply it. Sometimes I've done nothing more than ask, "*So what? What do we do with this passage?*" I engage *their* thinking. As they respond, I may need to challenge them to consider specific, practical ways they can live out the truth. "Love others more" is a nice application idea, but I encourage them to talk through specific ways they will love others more.

I would share a 4th idea, but I've run out of time.

Lynn Pryor,
Bible Studies for Life



2024 BAPTIST MISSIONS CONFERENCE
LIVING SENT
EVERY CHRISTIAN IS A MISSIONARY

<https://baptistsonmission.org/events/missions-conference>
APRIL 5-6, 2024 • HICKORY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH • CHARLOTTE, NC

The Internal Revenue Service recently issued the 2024 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2024, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 67 cents per mile driven for business use, up 1.5 cents from 2023.
- 21 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes for qualified active-duty members of the Armed Forces, a decrease of 1 cent from 2023.
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations; the rate is set by statute and remains unchanged from 2023.

These rates apply to electric and hybrid-electric automobiles as well as gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles.

NC Baptists Have Long History of Missions Support

N.C. Baptists have a long and demonstrated history of strong support for international missions. Evidence of that support was on display during last month's annual meeting in Greensboro. During the meeting, we heard from International Mission Board (IMB) President Paul Chitwood during a joint Sending Celebration between N.C. Baptists and the IMB during which we recognized and prayed over about 30 missionaries from our state who have recently answered the call to take the gospel to the nations.

Those missionaries will soon be joining the approximately 500 missionaries who have been sent out from N.C. Baptist churches and are currently serving around the world, which is the most of any state convention. As I saw those new missionaries and joined messengers in praying over them, I thought, "What if one of these missionaries takes the gospel to an unreached people group somewhere in the world for the very first time?" Lord, may it be so!

God is continuing to raise up others from our state to go to the nations, just as He has raised up and sent out those we publicly recognized at the annual meeting last month. I continue to hear stories, testimonies, and reports from N.C. Baptist pastors about individuals and couples who have also answered God's call and are even now preparing to go. I am also humbled by reports about college students from North Carolina who have answered the call to invest two years living on mission in North America or internationally for the sake of the gospel through the "Go2 Years" initiative.

**More Money & More Resources
Will Go Toward Reaching
More People & More Places
Around the World**

During the annual meeting, messengers also approved a historic \$31 million budget for 2024 that for the first time in our state's history reflects a 50/50 split between N.C. Baptists and our global ministry partners. This historic and significant vote allowed us as N.C. Baptists reach the milestone of a 50/50 split that was envisioned when the Cooperative Program was first established in 1925. That vision was reaffirmed by leaders in this state almost two decades ago, and I'm thankful to the many N.C. Baptists throughout our rich history who brought us to the day where we could see this milestone achieved.

N.C. Baptists, your budget vote not only made history, but it also means that more money and more resources will go toward reaching more people and more places around the world, resulting in more lives impacted by the life-changing power of the gospel. Praise be to God! During the annual meeting, we also learned that we are on the cusp of witnessing something that hasn't happened in our state in a long, long time. As this year draws to a close, we have a chance of exceeding our Cooperative Program budget for the third year in a row, which hasn't happened in our state in decades. N.C. Baptists, thank you for your generosity and making an eternal investment in our state and beyond to support God's kingdom work.

Your generosity is also evidenced by your ongoing and faithful support of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. During the annual meeting, we heard that North Carolina once again led all state conventions in gifts to support international missions through the Lottie Moon offering with \$14.2 million given during the 2022-2023 Southern Baptist Convention fiscal year. This year marked the 19th year in a row that North Carolina has been the national leader in Lottie Moon giving, and we praise the Lord for that.

And as we turn the calendar to December, I invite you to pray about how you and your church would be led by the Lord to support the Lottie Moon offering this year. In addition, I invite you to also consider how else God might be leading you to be involved in missions. We can all play a role through praying, giving, going and sending. N.C. Baptists, thank you once again for your generosity and for your support of missions and missionaries. That's what it means to be on mission together.

Todd Unzicker, Exec. Director/Treasurer
Baptist State Convention of NC
Article courtesy Biblical Recorder
December 1, 2023



Prayer Guide for World Missions

There are 17,428 total world people groups.

- 7,415 total world unreached people groups
- 4,977 total world frontier people groups

Why should we pray for unreached people groups?

- Missions & salvation of all people is God's plan, God's will, God's heart, God's dream (Genesis 3:15)
- In the Great Commission, Jesus commands us to reach all peoples in the world (Matthew 28:19-20)
- People without Jesus are eternally lost, and Jesus is the only One who can save them (John 14:6)
- We have been given "the ministry and message of reconciliation" in Christ (2 Cor. 5:18-20)
- Jesus' return is intimately tied to reaching all people groups (Matthew 24:14, Revelation 7:9)
- Jesus commanded us to pray to Him to send workers into the harvest (Luke 10:2)
- If we love Jesus, we will want to obey and please Him (John 14:15)

How should we pray for unreached people groups?

- Pray for great revival on the Church to cleanse, empower, and send them out to the lost.
- Pray for great outpouring of God's Spirit on the people group bringing conviction of sin.
- Pray for clear, biblical dreams and visions and revelations drawing people to Jesus.
- Pray for powerful, biblical signs and wonders of healing, deliverance, and miracles.
- Pray that God will send more workers into His harvest in obedience to Luke 10:2.
- Pray for great people movements to Christ and Church Planting Movements.
- Pray that new converts will be biblically disciplined and will grow in Jesus.

Why Are They Still Unreached?

- Limited Access - 70% of the largest Frontier People Groups (those with no known followers of Jesus and no known evangelism efforts) are in the top ten countries where Christians are most persecuted. Over 40% of the world does not have internet access. 87% of all Buddhists, Hindus, and Muslims have little, if any, contact with Christians.
- Limited Workers - Less than 10% of all missionaries work in Unreached People Groups. Less than 1% are missionaries to Frontier Peoples .
- Limited Vision - 76% of US Churchgoers either have not heard of the "Great Commission" or do not know what that means.
- Limited Churches - There are little or no indigenous churches to partner with.
- Limited Resources - For every dollar of Christian giving to all causes, less than one penny goes to financing pioneer church planting among Unreached People Groups.
- Limited Progress - There are more people alive today that do not know Christ than at any other time in history. Over 151,000 non-believers die every day.

Courtesy joshuaproject.net

 <p>Truett Conference Center & Camp</p> <p>Marriage Matters Conference</p> <p>February 9 & 10, 2024</p>	<p>Grow with Exciting Messages Reconnect Over a Valentine's Dinner Invest in Your Future</p> <p>truettcamp.org</p>	 <p>THE GO CONFERENCE</p> <p>Mobilizing College Students for the Great Commission</p> <p>February 9-10, 2024 Southeastern Seminary thegoconference.com</p>
<p>Answering the Call to Follow Jesus February 16-18, 2024 Fort Caswell Coastal Retreat</p> <p>https://ncbaptist.org/events/college-discipleship-conference/</p>	 <p>THE CALL A COLLEGE STUDENT CONFERENCE</p>	 <p>DISCIPLE-MAKING CONFERENCE</p> <p>February 27, 2024</p> <p>Inspired & Equipped to Become a Church on Mission February 27, 2024 Hickory Grove Baptist Church Charlotte,</p> <p>https://ncbaptist.org/events/2024-disciple-making-conference/</p>